

As an owner of five small- to mid-range businesses in rural Iowa, I fully understand the need to prioritize business communications, possibly at the expense of mindless Internet chatter and data-heavy streaming. However, I do not trust regulatory bodies to have the time or resources to properly enforce a workable traffic system. Specifically, I fear small- and sole-proprietor business will be shut out of both their local and international marketplaces.

As one example: I own a historic grain elevator in Spring Grove, Minnesota. This small business has evolved from the days of shipping hogs and corn by railway to Chicago and markets farther beyond. Today, it uses an Internet-based point-of-sale system and continues to contribute to our small-town economy in ways that larger competitors can't touch. If they can't connect to process sales, we will lose most, if not all of our brick and mortar business, and that is not an exaggeration. In addition, the elevator will not be able to compete in an expanded marketplace, curating high-quality products for customers online, via Amazon and other sites.

As the most influential agency affecting our nation's Internet policies, I ask the FCC to stand instead for free Internet access that makes access available for all users. We're already paying locally regulated providers monthly premiums for data-driven access. We don't need additional trafficking caps on that service.

Thanks much for your time!

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